

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (withdrawn)
2. (original) A method of treating an individual afflicted with rheumatoid arthritis, the method comprising administering to the individual an IL-17 receptor antibody, wherein the IL-17 receptor antibody inhibits IL-17 receptor signal transduction.
3. (withdrawn)
4. (withdrawn)
5. (withdrawn)
6. (withdrawn)
7. (withdrawn)
8. (original) The method of claim 2, further comprising administering one or more therapeutics selected from the group consisting of TNF antagonist, IL-1 antagonist and DMARD.
9. (original) The method of claim 8 wherein the TNF antagonist is selected from the group consisting of TNF antibodies, soluble TNF receptor p75, and soluble TNF receptor p55.
10. (original) The method of claim 8 wherein the IL-1 antagonist is selected from the group consisting of soluble IL-1 receptor type II, IL-1R type I antibody, IL-1 receptor antagonist, and fusion protein comprising soluble IL-1 receptor type I, and soluble IL-1 receptor accessory protein.
11. (withdrawn)

12. (original) The method of claim 8 wherein the DMARD is methotrexate.
13. (new) A method of treating an individual afflicted with rheumatoid arthritis, the method comprising administering to the individual a therapeutic comprising an antibody that binds a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of:
 - (a) a polypeptide having amino acids 33 through 320 of SEQ ID NO:1;
 - (b) a polypeptide having amino acids 28 through 320 of SEQ ID NO:1;
 - (c) a polypeptide having amino acids 1-320 of SEQ ID NO:1;
 - (d) a polypeptide having amino acids 1-866 of SEQ ID NO:1;
 - (e) a polypeptide having amino acids 28-866 of SEQ ID NO:1; and
 - (f) a polypeptide having amino acids 33-866 of SEQ ID NO:1.
14. (new) The method according to claim 2, further comprising administering one or more therapeutics selected from the group consisting of a TNF antagonist and an IL-1 antagonist.
15. (new) The method of claim 14 wherein the IL-1 antagonist is selected from the group consisting of soluble IL-1 receptor type II, IL-1R type I antibody, IL-1 receptor antagonist, and fusion protein comprising soluble IL-1 receptor type I and soluble IL-1 receptor accessory protein.
16. (new) The method of claim 14 wherein the TNF antagonist is selected from the group consisting of TNF antibodies, soluble TNF receptor p75, and soluble TNF receptor p55.